

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01773 310245Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 INR-10 /025 W
-----052899 310251Z /65

R 301500Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7428

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1773

STADIS//////////

NEA/ARN FOR DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SY
SUBJ: VISIT OF YOUNG ME POLITICAL LEADERS ORGANIZED BY ACYPL

REF/ STATE 074450

1. WE VERY MUCH WANT TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REINFORCE
OUR CONTACT WITH BAATH PARTY. WE CAN DO SO ONLY IF WE ARE
IN A POSITION TO ASSURE BAATH PARTICIPANTS--AND THEY
WILL ASK US FOR ASSURANCE--THAT THEY WILL NOT BE PROGRAMMED
TO GETHER WITH ISRAELI REPS. FROM BAATH PARTY VIEW THIS WOULD
CONSITIUTE TREASONOUS CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF
STATE WITH WHICH STATE OF WAR CONTINUES TO EXIST.

2. IF WE DISSEMBLED ON THIS POINT WITH BAATH PARTY AND PAR-
TICIPANTS WERE PLACED IN SUCH A SITUATION, WE COULD FORGET
ANY FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE BAATH. IT IS VERY
ESTIMABLE GOAL TO SEEK UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN YOUNG POLITICAL
LEADERS OF THE WORLD, BUT IT IS ALREADY A REVOLUTIONARY STEP
FOR BAATHIS TO MEET YOUNG US POLITICAL LEADERS. BELIEVE
WE MUST TAKE THIS PROCESS OF ENDING BAATH ISOLATION ONE
STEP AT A TIME.

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3. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER WE SHOULD PROCEED IN MAKING
INVITATION TO BAATH PARTY OR SHOULD SEEK OTHER NON-BAATH
CANDIDATES FOR THIS VISIT.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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